

The Latter-Day Saints'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

HE THAT HATH AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAITH UNTO THE CHURCHES.—Rev. II. 7.

No. 3.

FEBRUARY 1, 1848.

VOL. X.

EXPLORING TOUR FROM THE MISSOURI TO THE PACIFIC.

BY W. H. EMORY, U. S. A.

[We make the following extracts from a report of an Exploring Tour from the Missouri to the Pacific, as made by Lieut. W. H. Emory, U. S. A.] :—

August 15th.—Twelve o'clock last night information was received that 600 men had collected at the pass, which debouches into the Vegas, two miles distant, and where to oppose our march. In the morning orders were given to prepare to meet the enemy. At seven, the army moved, and just as we made the road leading through the town, Major Swords, of the quarter-master's department, Lieutenant Gilmer, of the engineers, and Captain Weightman, joined us from Fort Leavenworth, and presented Colonel Kearney with his commission as Brigadier-General in the army of the United States. They heard we were to have a battle, and rode sixty miles during the night to be in it. At eight precisely, the General was in the public square, where he was met by the Alcade and people, many of whom were mounted; for these people seem to live on horseback. The General pointed to the top of one of their houses, which are built of one story, and suggested to the Alcade that if he would go to that place, he and his staff would follow, and from that point where all could hear and see, he would speak to them, which he did as follows :—

"Mr. Alcade, and people of New Mexico! I have come amongst you by the orders of my government to take possession of your country, and extend over it the laws of the United States. We consider it, and have done so for some time, a part of the territory of the United States. We come amongst you as friends, not as enemies—as protectors, not as conquerors. We come among you for your benefit, not for your injury.

"Henceforth I absolve you from all allegiance to the Mexican government, and from all obedience to General Armijo. He is no longer your governor, [great sensation.] I am your governor. I shall not expect you to take up arms and follow me to fight your own people who may oppose me; but I now tell you that those who remain peaceably at home, attending to their crops and their herds, shall be protected by me in their property, their persons, and their religion, and not a peeper nor an onion shall be disturbed or taken by my troops without pay or by the consent of the owner. But listen! he who promises to be quiet and is found in arms against me I will hang.

From the Mexican government you have never received protection. The Apaches and the Veavajhoes come down from the mountains and carry off your sheep, and even your women, whenever they please. My government will correct all this. It will keep off the Indians, protect you in your persons and property, and, I repeat again, will protect you in your religion. I know you are all good Catholics—that

some of your priests have told you all sorts of stories, that we should illtreat your women, and brand them on the cheek, as you do your mules on the hip. It is false. My government respects your religion as much as the Protestant religion, and allows each man to worship his Creator as his heart tells him is best. Its laws protect the Catholic as well as the Protestant, the weak as well as the strong, the poor as well the rich. I am not a Catholic myself, I was not brought up in that faith, but at least one-third of my army are Catholics, and I respect a good Catholic as much as a good Protestant.

"There goes my army,—you see but a small portion of it, there are many more behind; resistance is useless.

"Mr. Alcade, and you two captains of militia, the laws of my country require that all men who hold office under it shall take the oath of allegiance. I do not wish for the present, until affairs become more settled, to disturb your form of government. If you are prepared to take the oath of allegiance, I shall continue you in office and support your authority."

This was a bitter pill, but it was swallowed by the discontented captain with downcast eyes. The General remarked to him in hearing of all the people, "Captain, look me in the face while you repeat the oath of office." The hint was understood, the oath taken, and the Alcade and the two captains pronounced to be continued in office. The citizens were enjoined to obey the Alcade, &c. The people grinned and exchanged looks of satisfaction, but seemed not to have the boldness to express what they evidently felt, that their burdens, if not relieved, were at least shifted to some ungalled part of the body.

August 18.—Events now begin to crowd on each other in quick succession, but my duties keep me so constantly occupied in my office and in the field, that I cannot chronicle them in regular order or enter much upon details. On the morning of the 19th, the General assembled all the people in the plaza and addressed them at some length. The next day the chiefs and head men of the Peubla Indians came to give in their adhesion and express their great satisfaction at our arrival. This large and formidable tribe are amongst the best and most peaceable citizens of New Mexico. They, early after the Spanish conquest, embraced the forms of religion and the manners and customs of their then more civilized masters, the Spaniards. Their interview was long and interesting; they narrated what is a tradition with them, that the white man would come from the far east, and release them from the bonds and shackles which the Spaniards had imposed, not in the name, but in a worse form than slavery.

They and the numerous half breeds are our fast friends now and for ever. Three hundred years of oppression and injustice have failed to extinguish in this race the recollection that they were once the peaceable and inoffensive masters of the country.

A great reduction must take place now in the price of dry goods and groceries, 20 per cent. at least, for this was about the rate of duty charged by Armijo, which is of course taken off.

He collected fifty or sixty thousand dollars annually, principally, indeed entirely, on goods imported overland from the United States. His charge was 500 dollars the wagon load, without regard to the contents of the wagon or value of the goods, and hence the duty was unjust and unequal. Mr. Alvarez informed me that the importations from the United States varied very much, but that he thought they would average about half a million of dollars yearly and no more. Most of the wagons go on to Chihuahua without breaking their loads. New Mexico contains according to the last census, made a few years since, 100,000 inhabitants. It is divided into three departments, the Northern, Middle, and South Eastern. These are again subdivided into counties, and the counties into townships. The lower or southern division is incomparably the richest, containing 48,000 inhabitants, many of whom are wealthy and in possession of farms, stock, and gold dust.

New Mexico, although its soil is barren, and its resources limited, unless the gold mines should, as is probable, be more extensively developed hereafter, and the culture of the grape enlarged, is from its position, in a commercial and military aspect, an all-important military possession for the United States.

The road from Santa Fe to Fort Leavenworth presents few obstacles for a rail-

way, and if it continues as good to the Pacific, will be one of the routes to be considered, over which the United States will pass immense quantities of merchandise into what may become, in time, the rich and populous states of Sonora, Durango, and Southern California.

October 28.—One or two miles ride and we were clear of the Black Mountains and again in the valley of the Gila, which widened out gradually to the base of Mount Graham, abreast of which we encamped. Almost for the whole distance, about 20 miles, were found at intervals the remains of houses like those before described. Just before reaching the base of Mount Graham, a wide valley, smooth and level, comes in from the south-east. Up this valley are trails leading to San Bernardino, Fronteras, and Tucson. Here also the trail by the Ojo Cavallo comes in, turning the southern abutment of the Black Mountains, along which Captain Cook is to come with his wagons.

At the junction of this valley with the Gila are the ruins of a large settlement. I found traces of a circular wall, 270 feet in circumference. Here also was one circular enclosure of 400 yards. This must have been for defence. In one segment was a triangular-shaped indenture, which we supposed to be a well. Large mesquite now grows in it, attesting its antiquity. Most of the houses were rectangular, varying from 20 to 100 feet front; many were of the form of the present Spanish houses. Red cedar posts were found in many places which seemed to detract from the antiquity, but for the peculiarity of this climate, where vegetable matter seems never to decay. In vain did we search for some remnant which would enable us to connect the inhabitants of these long deserted buildings with other races. No mark of an edge tool could be found, and no remnant of any household or family utensils, except the fragments of pottery which were everywhere strewn on the plain, and the rude corn-grinder still used by the Indians. So great was the quantity of this pottery, and the extent of ground covered by it, that I have formed the idea it must have been used for pipes to convey water. There were about the ruins quantities of the fragments of agate and obsidian, the stone described by Prescott as that used by the Aztecs to cut out the hearts of their victims. This valley was evidently the abode of busy hard-working people. Who were they? and where have they gone? Tradition among the Indians and Spaniards does not reach them.

I do not think it impossible that these ruins may be those of comparatively modern Indians; for Venegas says, "The father, Jacob Sedelmayer, in Oct., 1744, set out from his mission, (Tubutama) and, after travelling 80 leagues, reached the Gila, where he found 6000 Papagos, and near the same number of Pimas and Cocomaricopas." And the map which he gives of this country, although very incorrect, represents many Indian settlements and missions on this river. His observations, however, were confined to that part of the Gila near its mouth.

October 30.—Mount Turnbull, terminating in a sharp cone, had been in view down the valley of the river for three days. To-day, about three p.m., we turned its base forming the northern terminus of the same chain in which is Mount Graham.

Half a mile from our camp of last night was another very large ruin, which appeared, as well as I could judge, (my view being obstructed by the thick growth of mesquite,) to have been the abode of 5,000 or 10,000 souls. The outline of the buildings and the pottery presented no essential difference from those already described. But about 11 miles from the camp, on a knoll overlooked in a measure by a tongue of land, I found the trace of a solitary house somewhat resembling that of a field-work *en cremalliere*. The enclosure was complete, and the faces varied from 10 to 30 feet.

November 7.—Nearly opposite our camp of this date, and about one-third the distance up the hill, there crops out ore of copper and iron easily worked, the carbonate of lime and calcareous spar. A continuation of the vein of ore was found on the side where we encamped, and a large knoll strewn with what the Spaniards call *guia*, the English of which is, "guide to gold."

Our camp was on a flat sandy plain of small extent, at the mouth of a dry creek with deep washed banks, giving the appearance of containing at times a rapid and powerful stream, although no water was visible in the bed. At the junction a

clear pure stream flowed from under the sand. From the many indications of gold and copper ore at this place I have named it Mineral Creek, and I doubt not a few years will see flat boats descending the river from this point to its mouth freighted with its precious ores.

November 10.—The valley on the southern side of the Gila still grows wider; away off in that direction the peaks of the Sonoro mountains just peep above the horizon. On the south side of the river, and a few miles from it, runs a low chain of serrated hills. Near our encampment a corresponding range draws in from the south-east, giving the river a bend to the north. At the base of this chain is a long meadow, reaching for many miles south, in which the Pimas graze their cattle; and along the whole day's march were remains of equias, pottery, and other evidences of a once densely populated country. About the time of the noon halt a large pile, which seemed the work of human hands, was seen to the left. It was the remains of a three story mud house, 60 feet square, pierced for doors and windows; the walls were 4 feet thick, and formed by layers of mud 2 feet thick. Stanley made an elaborate sketch of every part; for it was no doubt built by the same race that had once so thickly peopled this territory, and left behind the ruins. We made a long and careful search for some specimen of household furniture or implements of art, but nothing was found except the corn-grinder always among the ruins and on the plains. The marine shell cut into various ornaments, was also found here, which showed that these people either came from the sea coast or trafficked there. No traces of hewn timber were discovered; on the contrary, the sleepers of the ground floor were round and unhewn; they were burned out of their seats in the wall to the depth of six inches. The whole interior of the house had been burnt out, and the walls much defaced; what was left bore marks of having been glazed, and on the wall in the north room of the second story were found hieroglyphics.

FOREIGN NEWS.

OREGON.—The English barque Janette, Captain Dring, arrived here on Wednesday last from Oregon. No papers were received, and little news, beyond what we had already learned. Advance companies of the emigration had arrived, after experiencing some difficulty with the Indians. Notwithstanding the despicable exertions on the part of a certain reckless, speculating portion of the Oregon people to deter the California emigration, by issuing circulars glaringly false, and despatching smooth-tongued hirelings to intercept the different bodies, the emigration to that country will not be as large as was at first anticipated. We have this from excellent authority. The consequence is, the emigration to this country next year, must be immense. The Oregonians will find in the end honest dealing to be by far the best policy.—*San Francisco (Cal.) Star, Sept. 11.*

SPECIE TO EUROPE—ERRONEOUS ESTIMATES.—WASHINGTON, DEC. 28, 1847. —Correspondence of the *New York Express* says: "The fact appears to have escaped much of public attention that the present financial operations of the government are calculated most injuriously to influence the money market. The million of dollars which last week was appropriated in a bill which passed the House of Representatives, was to meet two drafts drawn by the army in Mexico upon the government in Washington. The brokers and bankers in Mexico, in the English interest, are parties to the transaction, and by means of these bills they continue to get the value of their Mexican specie to Europe, without the risk of Mexican transportation, and without the payment of the Mexican duty on specie when sent from the country. These foreign bills of exchange, however, no sooner reach the United States than they are converted into specie and sent to England—and thus nearly the whole amount of army expenditures in Mexico finds its way to England. The two drafts, of half a million each, now on their way from Mexico, are but the prelude to so many other drafts, which will have to be paid in the same coin, and which will take the same course across the Atlantic. *It is thus we are to be drained of the precious metals, and in this form, also, the war contributes to the*

great embarrassment of the country." This is only an explanation in detail of the same financial movement which we have described in general terms. It is correct throughout, and clearly shows that some intelligent writer for the *Express* entertains right notions of the crisis into which this country is driving. Yet this crisis cannot be regretted nor avoided. A development of power always costs money. Military glory is not cheap and nasty—it is a costly article. The name which this country has achieved within the last two years, could only be reached in the ordinary way by the slow progress of centuries. The rapid movement, however, will cost a few hundred millions. But what of that? Every great nation must pay for its greatness and glory. The assignats and mandats issued at the time of the French Revolution, become worthless during the progress of the war in Italy. The war which England waged with France, caused, in 1797, the suspension of the Bank of England—a suspension which lasted a quarter of a century. No commercial nation can carry on a war of any magnitude without producing a revulsion in the currency, if that currency is one of bank paper, in particular. There is no use in closing our eyes upon the future. The great mass of the business people throughout this country, who conduct their operations upon cash principles, will rather be benefitted than injured by the breaking up of the banking system, which must take place, in consequence of carrying on, for years yet, the war with Mexico. In a short time, if the war continues, all the banks must suspend. But what of that? Seed time and harvest will go on without suspension. Gold and silver will still continue to be in the hands of the people—industry will still continue to be valuable. Most of the rotten banks round about the country are already exploding. Who cares for that? It is only the beginning of the end.—*New York Herald*.

CONFERENCE MINUTES.

MARS HILL.

The first division of this conference met according to appointment at Mooring's Cross, Herefordshire, on Sunday, August 29th, 1847.

The meeting having been called to order, was opened by singing the first hymn, after which Elder Banks offered up prayer.

It was then moved by Elder Layton, seconded by Elder Fidoe, and unanimously carried, that Elder Stenhouse preside over the conference.—Elder H. Arnold was then chosen to act as Clerk.

The President arose and expressed the pleasure he felt in meeting such a great number of the Saints; and, as he observed many from a great distance; he took it as an evidence of their interest for the welfare of the cause of God. He also observed a goodly number of the great ones from a distance; and as he expected much light to be diffused throughout the meeting of the day, he would be as brief as possible, in order that they might have the pleasure of hearing their illustrious visitors.

The number of officers present was 2 high priests, 20 elders, 18 priests, 9 teachers, and 3 deacons.

Eleven branches were then represented, containing 345 members, including 13 elders, 21 priests, 10 teachers, and 6 deacons. 17 had been baptized since last conference and 32 cut off.

The President said he rejoiced to hear the reports from the various branches. That spirit which prevailed in other places was also partaken of by them, causing the hearts of the Saints to rejoice. He observed that the number cut off might seem great, but he could say with assurance, that there had not been one cut off, or even one suspended, during the last fourteen months that he had been there, that was in good standing when he came; those that had been dealt with were some that had not been known as Saints for years past, and he was glad to see their names erased.

After several nominations had been made, the meeting was addressed by Elder

Banks in a pathetic manner, causing the Saints to rejoice in their high and holy calling.

The place being found to be too small for the company, which was constantly increasing, it was resolved to meet in an orchard adjoining.

During the interval those who had been nominated were ordained under the hands of Elders Fidge, Pullen, and Arnold. Also some who had been lately baptized were confirmed by the same. The meeting was then adjourned.

The afternoon meeting was opened by Elder Banks, after which the President offered prayer. The meeting was then addressed by Elder Westwood from Bath, and Elder Fidge, lately from America. The latter bore a faithful testimony to the work of God, and the integrity of the prophet Joseph, Hyrum, Brigham, and the Twelve.

The President then read a letter which he had received that morning from an American Elder, confirmative of that which had been stated by Elder Fidge, which gladdened the hearts of the Saints, and, like all truth—powerful—crushing the false statements that had been made by lying editors and their associates, who had talked so much about Mormons eating each other for want. The Saints had the spirit of truth to bear testimony to what had been stated, so the Devil and all his holy associates were done up. They must try another.

At this period of the proceedings, the following motions were put to the meeting by the President, not because he doubted the loyalty of the Saints to sustain the authorities of the kingdom, but it had of late been expressed by most of the conferences, through the STAR; and even although they were a few in number, and (comparatively speaking) poor, yet he was proud of them, and he thought the Twelve would not be displeased to hear of their attachment to the truth and the lawful administrators thereof. He then proposed that they acknowledge and sustain to the utmost of their power, Brigham Young, with the Twelve, as the presidency of the Church over the known world. Seconded by Elder Fidge and carried unanimously. He also proposed, that we acknowledge and sustain, to the best of our ability, Orson Spencer and F. D. Richards as the presidency of the church in the British Isles, (and as much farther as they please),* seconded by Elder Arnold and carried unanimously.

Proposed by Elder Layton that we sustain Elder Stenhouse as President of this conference. Seconded by Elder Fidge and carried unanimously.

The President then asked if they would sustain Elder Pullen as his travelling counsellor, and also Elder Layton. This, being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. Elder Pullen was then chosen clerk to the conference.

After singing a hymn the meeting was addressed by Elder Hawkins of Kidderminster, and Elder Banks from Birmingham, who went into Mormonism in earnest, and showed its beauty so much that Saints and sinners could not help admiring the beautiful bride—the Lamb's wife.

Such a conference has not been held in Herefordshire for some time. All were of one heart and of one mind. For this blessing we thank our Heavenly Father. Amen.

T. B. H. STENHOUSE, President.
H. ARNOLD, Clerk.

BURSELEM.

This conference assembled in the Temperance Hall, Pitt Street, Burslem, on the 12th of December, 1847. The meeting was called to order by Elder Mason, jun., after which it was moved and carried, that we accept Elder Clements as president over this conference, according to Elder O. Spencer's appointment. It was also moved and carried that he preside over this meeting, and that Elder Leese act as clerk, and take the minutes of this conference.

The meeting was then opened with prayer by the President, after which he read the 5th paragraph on the 220 page of the Book of Doctrine and Covenants. He

* Our Presidency extends to Europe and the adjacent isles, but the term, "Presidency of the British Isles," is more convenient for common use among the British Saints.—Ed.

then said that since he came to this conference his mind had been fixed on the order of the kingdom of God. "I find that many of you, through not having a knowledge of the order of the kingdom, have done many things that have been derogatory to the will of God. The Saints should learn their duty, and walk accordingly. If the council of those at the head is not observed, order will be destroyed. Union brings power; discord weakens. United, we stand; disunited, we fall. The revelations given through Joseph Smith tend to unite the Saints, and to make them one. The destroyer always aims his daggers at the head; he thinks if he can cut off the head the body will die, because it receives nourishment from the head. He will try to make the Saints believe that their president is a bad man—the worst wretch in existence—and full of all evil; and when we come to scan it down, we find that it amounts to a great big nothing. Then, brethren, I wish you to know that you must be united if you want to stand and be exalted in the kingdom of God. Jesus says if you are not one you are not his. I don't care how big a man may be—how many revelations and visions he has had—if he opposes the head he is an aspiring man; and, unless he repents, he will be trapped, and receive a just demerit of his crimes. Then, brethren, let past follies suffice. Humble yourselves before God. Round up your shoulders and put them to the wheel, and roll on the work of God. Be willing to support righteousness and maintain the order of the kingdom of God, and then you will prosper; and peace, joy, and happiness will follow you. If any of you have anything to say that will tend to comfort and unite the Saints you can now say it in as brief a manner as possible."

Elder Shaw then rose and said, "Perhaps I am considered by some as being the leader of what took place last conference, but I was not. I then thought that what I was doing would be beneficial unto all. I did not want to exalt one at the expense of another. I am willing to let the past drop, and to start anew from this time."

Elder Mason, jun., then rose and said that he was quite agreeable to let the past drop, and to be one with all those who desired to roll on this work. He also said that he was happy to state that steps had been taken in this branch to raise some money to purchase Invitations of Elder Orson Spencer, in order to invite the world to come and hear the fulness of the gospel, and he would recommend all other branches to do the same.

Elder Lockett and Elder Simpson also stated that they were quite willing to let all unpleasantness die away, and to do all they could for the benefit of this work.

It was then moved by Elder Horrocks, that all former differences shall be for ever buried and never mentioned again; this was duly seconded and carried unanimously.—The president then called for a representation of the branches, which were as follows:—

| BRANCH. | REPRESENTED BY | MEM. | ELD. | PRS. | TEA. | DEA. | D. S. | BAP. |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| Buralem | Elder Badley | 100 | 16 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 0 |
| Hanley | " Pool | 55 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Knutton Heath | " Green | 17 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Lane End | " Symmonds | 29 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Badley Edge | " Adams | 24 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Coxbank | | 23 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Press | | 15 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Leek | Elder Gibson | 40 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Stafford | From Book | 10 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hassall Green | Ditto | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Scattered Members | Scattered Members | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | 324 | 37 | 31 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 3 |

The number of officers present was as follows:—2 high priests, 1 of the seventies, 13 elders, 12 priests, 3 teachers, and 3 deacons.

The Sacrament was then administered by Elder Shaw and Elder Horrocks, after which the conference was adjourned until our usual Quarterly Conference.

ELDER CLEMENTS, President.
ELDER LEESE, Clerk.

In the evening, Elder Clements spoke to a large and an attentive audience on the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, &c. The meeting was closed about eight

o'clock, and the Saints separated well satisfied with what they had heard and seen through the day. Two gave in their names for baptism, and were baptized on Monday evening.

The Latter-day Saints' Millennial Star.

FEBRUARY 1, 1848.

EMIGRATION!—The channel of Saints' emigration to the land of Zion, is now opened. The long-wished for time of gathering has come. Good tidings from Mount Zion! The resting place of Israel, for the last days, has been discovered. Beautiful for situation, and the ultimate joy of the whole earth is the Stake of Zion established in the mountains. In the elevated valley of the Salt and Entau Lakes, with the beautiful river Jordan running through it, from south to north, is the newly established stake of Zion. There vegetation flourishes with magic rapidity. And the food of man, or staff of life, leaps into maturity from the bowels of mother earth, with astonishing celerity. Within one month from planting, potatoes grew from "*six to eight inches*," and corn from *two to four feet*. There the pregnant clouds introduce their fertilizing contents, at a modest distance from the fat valley, and send their humid influences from the mountain tops. There the saline atmosphere of Salt Lake mingles in wedlock with the fresh humidity of the same vegetable element that courses over the mountain top, as if the nuptial bonds of rare elements were intended to exhibit a novel specimen of a perfect vegetable progeny in the shortest possible time; or, in other words, as if nature's lenses had obtained a focal point of nutritive power just in the valley of the great Salt Lake. This valley is in the north east corner of the great basin, in dimension nearly 300 by 500 miles. The streams and rivers are enriched by valuable waterfalls, suited to the purpose of erecting mills and factories, and all descriptions of machinery. This great basin is adequate to sustain many millions of people. It is generally cleared of all hindrance to settlement by the long and sharp scythe of time. The various timber of lofty mountains wait in proud readiness to bow at the signal of the axe, and to go forth to beautify the temple of our God. The box, the fir, the pine, and maple, have sprung up at the dictation of prophecy, just where they are needed. Mills, factories, hamlets, mansions, houses, and cities, can be supplied with building materials from the uncultured forests of many ages.

Now rejoice, and lift up your heads, O ye pure in heart, and let the labouring and heavy laden, that have been bowed down under the weight of accumulated oppressions, in every nation, prepare themselves to come to their inheritance in the land of promise. The day of release dawns, and the notes of millennial jubilee reverberate from the mountain heights of Zion. Let all that can, gather up their effects, and set their faces as a flint to go Zionward in due time and order. All things are now ready. The word of the Lord comes forth from Zion to the upright of all the earth, "gather yourselves to the place of your rest, for there is no time to be lost." Let your preparations, however, be in wisdom, and not in heedless precipitancy.

Hearken implicitly to council, lest a devious step should make the way too rugged to be endured. Look well to the council of those who have literally cast up a highway, and removed the stumbling blocks, and endured fatigue, want, robbery, and indescribable losses, in order that the just might have a home, and reap the good of their labour without molestation. The enterprise, energy, and wisdom,

and endurance of the "Twelve," in making a road of such great distance over mountains, morasses, and rivers, and in cultivating the soil, erecting bulwarks of safety, and laying out a city—all in one short season (or six and a half months)—constitute a marvellous work. These are the men that have proved themselves the sons of God. They have stood undaunted amid the shock and shafts of persecution, while the bellowing roar of calumny has reverberated on every hand. Apostate spirits have shrunk back, dodged, skulked, and retreated for fear of the missiles of scandal, and the teeth of malice. But these men have proved themselves worthy in order that the just may have good assurance of faith in them as the apostles of the last days, and all men may be without excuse who reject their testimony. They are the great liberators of the nineteenth century, who keep the commandments of God, and have right to hold the keys of the gates of Zion. They say come; we have found out a resting-place for Zion. Through perils, losses, and vast difficulties, we have laid the foundation for future generations to build upon.

The Saints in the British island will hail the tidings "come" with delight and gratitude to the Duodecim deliverers, that have conquered all difficulties, and planted the ensign in the heights of Zion. As the ancient Saints (wise men) heard that Jesus had come in the vale of poverty and persecution to liberate and save men, they opened their treasures and presented him "gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh." By these means the poor family of Jesus were enabled to travel and shun the shafts of the persecutors, and perform certain pleasing rites suited to the birth of the royal pauper. The Saints whose means will permit, and whose faith comprehends the great work of their "benefactors," will not forget to send or bear occasional tokens of their love and gratitude to these men.

It is now designed to fit out a ship's company of emigrants as soon as practicable. It is not well to embark from Liverpool later than about the first of March, until the warm season is past. In September, again, it may do to commence sending companies as far as Council Bluffs, from whence they can remove over the mountains in the following spring. The first company this winter ought to be embarked from Liverpool, as early as the 9th of February. The Presidents of Conferences are requested to forward to us the number of those who are prepared to emigrate by the 9th of February, and also the number that will be ready by the 23rd of February. The persons who wish their names registered, to go in the first vessel that sails, are requested to forward their names with an advanced payment of £1, as deposit money. With this sum we shall secure the passages of those whose names and moneys are forwarded. The utmost economy, cheapness, and comfort will be studiously sought out for the passengers. We have no means of certifying definitely the price of passage to Council Bluffs or St. Louis. It would be well to calculate upon £7 passage-money to St. Louis; children under 12 years half price, including provisions and stores. The distance from St. Louis to the Bluffs, by the river, may be about 800 miles. The whole expense from Liverpool to the Bluffs, for one person, may be £10. Emigrants going beyond St. Louis by the Missouri River, should be ready to go up that river early enough in the spring to have the benefit of high water, as boats do not often pass as far as the Bluffs in the summer. Those also who intend to cross the mountains will find it desirable to leave Council Bluffs before the summer begins. Those who have adequate means for passing the mountains this season, it is thought will be advised to do so, whilst others may tarry at the Bluffs until they can furnish the necessary means for pursuing their journey to Salt Lake. Some others may be advised, for want of adequate means,

to tarry at St. Louis, until sufficient can be earned to carry them forward. The poor, and those who have not adequate means, will be assisted as far as practicable, obligating themselves to make remuneration when it is in their power. Our hopes, in regard to the deliverance of the poor, are firm and bright; never have they been more so than at the present moment. Let them wait their day, and watch their opportunity, keeping the commandments with all diligence, and they shall find deliverance sooner and more perfectly than the sceptical apprehend.

But let them and all others work for the Lord and his gospel, in their sphere and station, with contentment. For this is the day of choosing among British Saints to some extent, more or less. The murmuring, contentious, and slothful must not expect to eat the bread of the diligent, and be carried to Zion, where their example will be sadly pernicious. The faithful, whether rich or poor, that are assiduously endeavouring to build up the kingdom, will not be forgotten. The eyes of the Lord are upon them. Let those who have not been faithful hitherto begin anew, and put to with all their might, and mercy and kindness shall be liberally dispensed to them; for the Lord is plenteous in mercy.

We have hitherto, in order to stimulate the Saints to faithfulness and diligence in spreading the gospel, forewarned them that emigration *might* begin soon with a *rush*. Even so it has turned out. The time has come and we want to improve it, until the spring is fully open, with all our might, sending as many by way of New Orleans as can wisely be done. It will not be advisable for emigrants to calculate upon stopping in New Orleans in the summer season. The recruiting station at the Bluffs will be very favourable for earning and procuring provisions and teams, &c., to go over the mountains in the latter part of spring. The pioneer company put seed into more than 80 acres of ground the latter part of July and first of August last. Afterwards a company of 566 wagons arrived in September; and, about a month later, 350 of the Battalion were expected to arrive and spend the winter at Salt Lake. Consequently the large number of able-bodied men left at that Stake, will prove adequate to make great improvements in building houses, and in sowing and planting an extensive territory of ground next spring. It is expected the Lake valley will extensively teem with abundant products for the sustenance of increasing thousands, by another autumn. Emigrants coming to Liverpool by the railways from different parts, will find it needful to be well certified of the names of the company's carriers of luggage with whom they entrust their luggage, so that on their arrival in Liverpool they will have no difficulty in obtaining their luggage promptly. They will need to arrive here about three days before the sailing of the ship. Mechanics may take their tools with them, free of all *duty*, if they choose. The Saints that emigrate should to adjust all their affairs with their brethren whom they leave behind, that there will be no occasion for fault-finding through fraud or unpaid debts, neither should any overstate their means and thereby cause perplexity to the company on their journey. The presiding Elders of Conferences will give adequate counsel to emigrants concerning deposit money that is remitted by Post Office Order. The commission at the Order Office, for a sum not exceeding £2 is threepence, for a sum not exceeding £5, sixpence. Let the conferences which are responsible to us for their agent's payment of our dues, look after our mutual interests. A monthly balance of accounts with our book agents will be advisable for them and us.

THE American news is auspicious of a great political excitement. The electioneering campaign for the next President has commenced very early, and promises a most arduous struggle. The two great political parties are both subdivided so much as

to cause distraction of efforts. The ranks of the Democratic administration party are broken by a rising formidable party of what are called "Half-blood Abolitionists," headed by John Van Buren, son of Martin Van Buren, a late President. Mr. Clay is once more a candidate, probably for the White House, likewise General Taylor.

Nothing of special interest has recently transpired relative to the Mexican war. The financial state of things in the United States of America is becoming sadly deranged. Some half dozen banks at least have already failed, and many more are struggling hard for existence. The panic that has been so serious here, has just begun to be felt there, and Wall Street, the great focal point of banks and brokers, is filled with fearful apprehension about money matters. The drain of bullion to Europe, and to Mexico for the support of the war, awakens general alarm for the safety of the banking institutions of that country.

Go to whatever country you will, the signs of the times are truly ominous. The outrages, crimes, and shocking disasters that now begin to obtrude upon the observation of the most careless and sceptical every where, are preparing men out of all nations to welcome the intelligence, that *Zion*—a place of safety and rest for the righteous, is established. From henceforth the *gathering* will preach louder than ever before; and while it is practicable for the Saints to emigrate by New Orleans to the mountains, no favourable opportunity should be lost, lest in the commotion and revolution of governments, or the event of war, this present channel of emigration should be obstructed, and ultimately emigrants should be necessitated to pass round Cape Horn in ships.

The news from the Western Island, where our faithful brethren Pratt and Grouard are labouring, is favourable. Our beloved Apostles P. P. Pratt and J. Taylor are in the Great Basin, while the other Apostles are at Council Bluffs, except Elder Hyde, who is 25 miles below, at Hyde Park. General health prevails in the camp, except a few cases of measles, with which the Editor's family, among others, were afflicted at the last dates.

JEWISH LETTER, FROM A CONVERTED JEW WHO HAS BEEN A PROTESTANT MISSIONARY.

Giles Long Row, Frome, December 17, 1848.

Dear Brother Halliday,—Grace and peace be multiplied unto you, my dear brother, and called to be head in the church of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, that is in Wilts and Somerset.

Dear brother, I must tell you that I took my pen with much joy to write unto you these few lines; first, I and my dear wife, that is ready to be a sister of the Latter-day Saints, and my dear children, thanks be to our God, are well in health. Secondly: that I was being tossed about to and fro, and the Lord has grafted me into his true church and in his everlasting covenant, which he has renewed to his ancients, and they that are beloved for the Father's sake, to make them a blessing in the midst of the earth. Yes, may I say great and marvellous are the works of our God. I felt, from the time that I was baptized, and that the servants of the Most High Jehovah had laid their hands on my head in the name of Jesus Christ, that the seal of the Spirit of God is steadfast, resting upon me, and my heart is inflamed with love to the brethren and sisters that are called and chosen to be Latter-day Saints. I do testify with all my heart, that Mormonism is the very and true covenant and the priesthood of Melchisedec.

Thirdly: I am glad to inform you that my dear wife has promised me to-day, in the presence of brother Hanham, that as soon as the meeting place should be opened here in Frome, that she will leave the English Church, that is called so; and if

you cannot get a house greater than ours, then you can preach in our own house, only to make a beginning. She would go out of the Synagogue of Satan this very day if we only had a place where to worship. I can assure you that I am refreshed in my mind that the Lord hath answered my prayers.

I hope this will find you and your dear wife and children, and her sister, and all that are near and dear unto you, in very good health, and in the smile of our God and Saviour. My wife sends her kind love to you all in the spirit of Mormonism. Please to answer me by return of post, if you will be soon in Frome to begin to build a church. I will not be at home in the beginning of next week until Wednesday evening. I greet you all with an holy kiss, in the name of the Lord Jesus, and wish you all the blessings of the God of Israel.

Your brother, in the everlasting gospel of the Messiah Jesus,

JAMES BARNET.

COLONIZATION OF PALESTINE BY THE JEWS.

The recent persecutions of the Jews by some of the bigotted people of the East, and the opposite efforts which are now making in this and neighbouring countries to abolish their civic and legislative disabilities, have of late attracted much public attention. It would appear that nearly seven millions of this persecuted race are now scattered over the face of the globe,* in various degrees of prosperity; and to better the condition of the poorest, a plan has been proposed, which appears to have in it the elements of success. This is simply the colonization of Palestine.

The Jews, in whatever country residing, have always exhibited an aversion to engage in agricultural pursuits, or to invest their capital in land. Relying on the Scripture promise of being eventually restored to their country and united again as one nation, they hold themselves in readiness to depart from the place of their present sojourn at the shortest notice. Most of the property they accumulate is either readily transportable, or is convertible into articles which are current coin everywhere—such as gold, silver, and jewels. They are seldom handicraftsmen or artisans, especially of arts peculiar to their abiding places; from which it has always been their policy to be able to sever themselves as speedily as possible, when the wished-for day of union in Palestine shall arrive. Most of the attempts, therefore, to amalgamate the people of Israel with those they may reside amongst, have signally failed. Recently, in Poland and Russia—where the largest section of the nation resides—the emperor ceded a portion of the crown lands to be allotted amongst certain Jews deported from the frontiers; but many of them showed reluctance to take advantage of the cession. Wishing to abolish distinctions, he also issued a ukase or proclamation for the abandonment of the peculiar garb worn by his Jewish subjects; but they considered it as an intolerant hardship, and so few obeyed the injunction, that the emperor, visiting the Jewish hospital at Warsaw, found one only of the patients not dressed in the Jewish garb. The czar noticed this one particularly, and commended his example to the others; observing, that in five years he should command them to adopt the general costume; meanwhile, he would ask it of them as a favour. How many have complied with this polite wish, we have not ascertained.

The rooted aversion of the bulk of the Hebrew nation to regard any country as their permanent home, is of course a bar to their civilization and advancement. Several benevolent persons, with Sir Moses Montifore at their head, have however found a way out of the difficulty, by proposing a colonization of Palestine by the

* The Jewish population of Russia and Russian Poland is 1,700,000; that of Great Britain and Ireland is 80,000; France, 80,000; Austria, 453,524; Prussia, 194,588; Germany, 145,000; Holland and Belgium, 80,000; Denmark, 6000; Sweden, 1250; Switzerland, 2000; Turkey in Europe, 325,000; Italy, 200,000; Gibraltar, 2000; Portugal, 1000; Ionian Islands, 8000. Making in the whole of Europe about three millions and a quarter. America is said to contain 75,000; Asia, 3,000,000; Africa, 500,000. The total number of Jews scattered over the face of the globe may be above 6,800,000.

Jews. This proposition seems to reconcile all difficulties, and to remove all prejudices. "The Voice of Jacob," a periodical supported by the most influential London Jews, and previously noticed in this journal, approves of such a plan; whilst the organ of the French Jews, the *Archives Israelites* for February last, proposes "a European committee for Jewish colonization." Every Jew, looking towards Palestine with a pious love as his true home, would no longer object to "put his hand to the plough," and to possess a property in the soil. That the land is capable of supporting a vast body of emigrants, is proved by the Parliamentary Report on Syria, published in 1840. Mr. Consul Moore states, that the population of the whole country is at present reduced to a tithe of what the soil could abundantly support. Lands, therefore, with the permission of the sultan, could easily be found; and, as to another great necessary in every undertaking—money—who, according to the proverb, are so rich as the Jews?

An important advantage which would result from such a colonization to the region itself and its neighbourhood, is pointed out in a pamphlet recently issued by Colonel Gawler. The Jews, who, wherever located, are acknowledged to be an orderly and industrious people, would form the nucleus of a well-doing and peaceful population amidst whole tribes who are now the reverse. The Turkish provinces have become, since the declension of Ottoman power, nothing better than diplomatic nuisances. They give more trouble to European governments than all the rest of Asia, and, indeed, of the entire globe. The pachas, each struggling for independence, are constantly squabbling with their neighbours; while in many of these squabbles the already independent ruler of Egypt thinks it necessary to interfere on one side, and his late master, the sultan, finds it his duty to interfere on the other. Hence a constant fermentation is kept up, and the simplest advance towards civilization cannot be effected. But if the very generally expressed desire of the Jews were acceded to—that is, the colonization of Palestine under European protection—most of these evils would vanish. The belligerent pachas would not dare disrespect such powerful protection, even in prosecuting their own quarrels, whilst the industrious colonists would be showing them the advantages of peace and industry.

A number of Jews have already established themselves in Jerusalem; but, from various causes, are not at present in a very flourishing condition. Efforts are making, however, to introduce manufactures into the city, and three intelligent inhabitants have recently made a tour in the English manufacturing districts, for the purpose of learning power-loom weaving, with the view of exporting spinning-mills, and setting them up in Jerusalem. Cotton, silk, and wool, are abundantly produced in and near the city, the first being now spun and woven after the most primitive methods.

The known enterprise, energy, and prudence of the Jews turned into a new, and to them most exciting channel, will, should the scheme be carried out, be productive, there can be little doubt, of the most important results. If, after eighteen centuries of wandering and persecution, they should at last return to the home of their fathers, they will surely excite the interest and good wishes of the whole civilised world.—*Chambers' Edinburgh Journal*.

VARIETIES.

THE ROTHSCHILDS. — The history of the present house of Rothschild — its first beginning, its rise and progress, and the steps by which it attained its present power in the world, is a history of great curiosity. During our visit to Europe, we collected materials for such a history, in Paris, London, Frankfort, Vienna, and Naples. The parent of the house, and the mother of the whole race, still lives in one of the narrowest and dirtiest streets of Frankfort, yet the branches, in all the capitals of Europe, and their descendants, live in the most splendid palaces. They are connected with all the governments of Europe — are concerned in all the great speculations of the day — in corn, cotton, stocks, and every thing; and even American stocks, that are so much talked of in Europe, was one of their chief objects of speculation before the States failed in paying their interest.—*Ed. of Herald for Europe*.

MURDER.—At Louisville, on the 22nd December, a negro belonging to Matthew Ferguson, murdered his master's son. The negro refused to do some work about the saw-mill of Mr. F., where he was employed, and the young man and another were sent to remonstrate with him, and compel him to do his duty. Before any attempt was made to chastise the negro, he drew a knife and plunged it into the side of young Mr. Ferguson, who fell and expired immediately. He then cut both of Mrs. Ferguson's hands severely, and made his escape to a raft in the river, near the house. Mr. M. Ferguson procured a shot gun and discharged it at him. A few of the shot took effect in his face and neck, which injured him but little. He was subsequently arrested, and placed in gaol to await his trial.

WHAT A BILL-FISH CAN DO.—Under what genus and species the ichthyologist will class the specimen of the finny tribe called *bill-fish*, we know not; but according to Captain Lincoln of the William Penn, this fish possesses great physical power, sufficient to thrust its bill through the solid oak sides of a ship. Shortly after the William Penn sailed from the Sandwich Islands, in the spring of 1842, she was obliged to put in at the Society Islands on account of a leak. On heaving out, about six feet from the keel was found the bill of the above-mentioned fish. It had been thrust several inches through the following materials: 1st, copper; 2nd, sheathing, one-inch pine; 3rd, plank, 3-inch oak; 4th, timber, 4-inch oak; 5th, ceiling, 2½-inch oak. In all, 9½ inches solid oak and 1 inch pine—total 10½ inches. Captain Lincoln has preserved the identical bill, being about 1½ inch in diameter, so that he is able to convince the incredulous by ocular demonstration. We recollect some years since to have seen the blade of a sword-fish thrust through a piece of solid oak timber: it was cut from the side of a whale-ship, and is now preserved as a curiosity in the Marine Museum, Nantucket, Massachusetts.—*Chambers' Edinburgh Journal*.

DESTRUCTIVE TORNADO AND LOSS OF LIFE.—We have various accounts of a fearful tornado that passed through a portion of the county of Perry, in this State, on Friday evening last. It commenced, as well as we can learn, near Newbern, in Green County, and pursued a northeasterly direction through the county of Perry. Much damage was done in Newbern, but the extent is not ascertained. Pursuing its course from Newbern, the hurricane first encountered the premises of Mr. John C. Driver, just over the line in Perry, levelling to the ground every building on the place, except the kitchen. The dwelling house of Mr. James Y. Wallace was next unroofed, and all the outhouses, except the kitchen, blown down. Mr. Wallace was injured, though not dangerously, by the falling timbers. Next, pursuing its course, it came to the splendid mansion of L. Q. C. De Yampert, Esq., which it unroofed, and every outhouse on the place was demolished. We next hear of it at Dr. Robert Foster's, whose dwelling was unroofed, and most of the outhouses were blown down. Here, we are pained to learn, Mr. Elias Stokes, a young man of high respectability, and brother of the Sheriff of Perry, was killed instantly by the falling of timbers. Pursuing its destructive course, we next hear of the hurricane at the residence of Mr. Charles Cox, where it is said everything is demolished—hardly a board left of all his buildings. This is as far as we have heard. How long or to what extent its frightful course was continued, we are yet to learn. We hope, however, its fury was soon spent, and that we already know the worst.—*Mobile Advertiser*, Dec. 17.

TERRIBLE STEAM-BOAT EXPLOSION—OVER SIXTY PERSONS KILLED, AND THIRTY OTHERS HORRIBLY INJURED.—The steamer A. M. Johnson, bound to Wheeling, blew up yesterday, with a tremendous explosion, near Maysville, Kentucky, from some unascertained defect in the machinery. Between sixty and seventy persons were killed on the spot, and a large number scalded, of whom some thirty were so horribly injured, that their recovery was considered doubtful. Among the killed we learn the names of the first clerk, Fairchild, engineer, Lyles, and the pilot, Redman. Among the scalded are Messrs. Everhart and son, and G. S. Wetherby, of Philadelphia; Wheat and Rillson, of Baltimore; and Jno. Galbraith, of Pittsburg. Messrs. Arthur Fole, T. McDonald, James Wichersham, G. Baker, and Ferguson, of Pittsburg, were among the saved. So rapid was the progress of the flames after the explosion, and so complete the devastation, that hardly an effort could be made for self-preservation. The boat was soon in one sheet of fire and burned to the water's edge. The number of passengers on board the A. M. Johnson, when the appalling accident occurred, was one hundred and sixty, not more than one quarter of whom escaped injury. So dreadful an accident has rarely, if ever, occurred on the Ohio. The list of the killed and wounded is, as yet, of course, very incomplete, and, as in most cases of the kind, there were probably many individuals on board whose names will never be known. The occurrence, as may be presumed, has occasioned great excitement and deep sympathy here. Persons in the vicinity of the disaster, did all in human power to relieve the sufferers, but so awfully sudden was the occurrence that nearly every effort was fruitless.—*Cincinnati*, Dec. 30, 1847.

EXPLOSION AND FATAL RESULT.—Yesterday morning, about half-past nine o'clock, the inmates of the Refectory establishment of Mr. L. Fox, in Light Street, opposite the Fountain Hotel, were startled by a loud report, the cause of which could at that time be scarcely conjectured. It was immediately ascertained, that an explosion of a boiler, for the purpose of heating water in the kitchen, had caused the noise, and on entering the room a horrid spectacle was presented. The fire-place, with the range in the same room, was wrecked, and the boiler was blown into fragments; the concussion breaking out windows and tearing doors from their hinges, so great was its force. Mrs. Mary Ann Roden, a widow lady of some fifty years of age, was perfectly dead. A fragment of the boiler had struck her on the right collar bone, and across the throat, completely severing the arteries and exposing the top of the lungs. She had both arms broken. Miss Nancy Quynn, aged about twenty-five years, was not very badly hurt, though her wounds are painful. Miss Sarah Healy, aged about twenty-one years, was very badly injured, being bruised and much scalded about the breast and body. Ann Tracy, coloured, was also much hurt—her injuries appear to be more of an internal character. Nelson Smith, a coloured man, was slightly injured on the arm, and some little scalded.—*Baltimore Sun.*

LINES DEDICATED TO THE SCOTTISH SAINTS.

BY SAMUEL W. RICHARDS.

Dearest Saints, would you come
Where Ephraim doth roam,
'Mong mountains and wiles in the West;
Where Israel doth camp,
And truth as a lamp,
Bright burning, doth lead them to rest?
Methinks you exclaim, We are longing to go,
And learn of them there what Saints only know.

Would you bid friends adieu,
And never once rue
The dangers of land and the sea;
To go where you'll share,
The privations and care,
Of those from oppression who flee?
The faithful voice whispers, We haste to forego
Awhile all the sorrow, for what we now know.

Would you come with the blest,
From east and the west,
And share *as the curse they do flee*;
On mountains yon heights,
In the powers and rights
Of a people for ever made free?
Each Saint is exclaiming, We're anxious to go
From judgments of God; they're coming we know.

Would you live for the keys,
That God you may please,
And redeem both the sire and son,
Of ages long past,
Since the priesthood was lost,
By which the great work must be done?
With impatience ye cry, Oh, yes, let us go!
We seek to receive all blessings we know.

Would you rear to our God,
For his power and word,
A temple to which he will come;
And give a new name,
With which you may claim,
A return to your heavenly home?
Where angels and spirits, with God's freely go,
And Saints, true to death, dwell with them we know.